The crazy rabbits!
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Honey Buster
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Bandage no Maihou no Shita
Mangetsu no Yoru ni Akuma no Kiss
Short Sunzen
Clover
Gal Kadou
ry Dynamite
Come and join us
If you don't want us
to send the crazy
rabbits after you!!
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1637 Volume 4 Chapter 17

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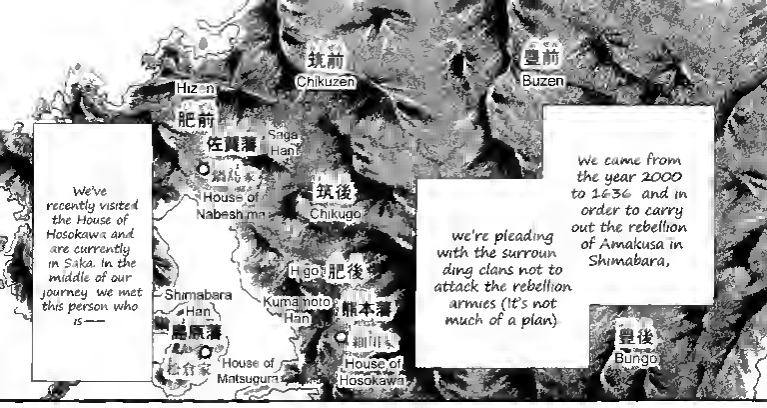
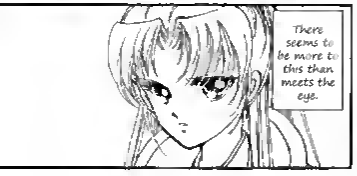

We've recently visited the House of Hosokawa and are currently in Saka. In the middle of our journey we met this person who is——
Hizen
肥前
筑前
Chikuzen
豊前
Buzen
Saga Han
佐賀藩
鍋島家
House of Nabeshima
筑後
Chikugo
We came from the year 2000 to 1636 and in order to carry out the rebellion of Amakusa in Shimabara,
we're pleading with the surrounding clans not to attack the rebellion armies (It's not much of a plan).
Higo
肥後
Shimabara Han
島原藩
松倉家
House of Matsugura
Kumamoto Han
熊本藩
細川家
House of Hosokawa
豊後
Bungo

MIYAMOTO-DONO, IF YOU AREN'T IN A HURRY, WOULD YOU STOP BY MY HUMBLE PLACE IN TOWN?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND INVITATION. I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO GO,
Although he's the eldest son, he isn't the heir


There seems to be more to this than meets the eye.

the eldest son of the House of Nabeshima in Saka Han Nabeshima Motoshige.

SO YOU'RE GOING TO MEET MY FATHER——
BUT—— I'M AFRAID I'D HAVE TO DECLINE AS I'M ON WAY TO MEET YOUR FATHER, KATSUSHIGE MAYBE NEXT TIME THEN—
BOW YOUR HEAD——
BOW YOUR HEAD
SHHH!
HOW WOULD IT BE IF THAT PERSON WAS THE NEXT HEIR——
He's so loved by the people.
HE'S REALLY KIND-HEARTED.
IT WAS A GOOD THAT IT'S MOTOSHIGE'S PROCESSION
WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED IF IT HAD BEEN SOMEONE ELSE INSTEAD?
SANJI, YOU ACTUALLY DASHED OUT DURING THE PROCESSION, WHAT A DANGEROUS THING TO DO——
IT'S ALRIGHT.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MISTER ATTENDANT.

FURTHER-MORE,MOTO-SHIGE'S THE STRATEGIST FOR IE-MITSU'S ARMIES.
HIS FATHER, KATSUSHIGE, IS THE CURRENT CASTELLAN OF SAGA WHICH IS WORTH 350,000 GOKU.
HE'S REALLY POPULAR. IT'S RARE TO MEET HIM, SO I'D REALLY LIKE TO SPEAK TO HIM
HUMPH
HE'S A DANGEROUS MAN, SO YOU'D BETTER NOT GET NEAR HIM
What's... this murderous aura?
The patrol's running... Something's going on.
ERI, LEND ME YOUR HORSE.

SFX: VWEZ
SFX: VWEZ
NATSUKI!
SOME-THING HAS HAPPENED TO MOTOSHIGE!
SFX: PIEKCES
DONO! PLEASE RUN, DONO!
SFX: WOOSH
NOODLE STALL

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HERE, THIS IS WATER
DAMN...
POUR THIS O-VER YOUR WOUND SO THAT THE POISON WON'T SPREAD
IT'D HELP TO STOP THE BLEEDING TOO
IDIOT! IF WE WERE TO SEND HIM THERE MOTOSHIGE-SAMA'D BE KILLED!
WE'VE GOT NO OTHER CHOICE!
THE NEAREST DOCTOR'S AT SAGA CASTLE
IS THERE ANY DOCTOR AROUND HERE?
THE.. THERE'S ALSO SOME WATER HERE.
IT'S TERRIBLE! MOTOSHIGE-SAMA'S DYING.
OH, THANK YOU.
Motoshige would be killed if he goes to Saga Castle?!

FALL
MOTO-SHIGE-DONO!
SHH— WATCH YOUR WORDS!
ANYWAY, THE ASSAILANTS MUST'VE BEEN FROM MITSUSHIGE'S SIDE MOTOSHIGE-SAMA'S REALLY PITIFUL
ALRIGHT
MIYAMOTO-SAMA, PLEASE, PLEASE SAVE DONO—SAVE DONO'S LIFE .. PLEASE HELP HIM.
THIS IS BAD. THE POISON'S SPREADING. WE'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING!
DONOOO...
DONO
WE'LL DEFINITELY... SAVE HIM.
He's so loved by his people.

I won't let him be killed.
GET ON THE HORSE! I'M TAKING YOU TO SAGA CASTLE!
I'LL DEFINITELY PROTECT DONO THOSE WHO AREN'T BADLY HURT, COME WITH ME!
DONO
LET'S GO, MIYAMOTO!
YES, THAT'S RIGHT!
DON'T BE RECKLESS! ARE YOU REALLY BRINGING MOTOSHIGE TO SAGA CASTLE?
BUT I'LL PROTECT HIM WITHOUT FAIL!
gallop
gallop
WHO ARE YOU..?
YOU AREN'T MIYAMOTO'S RETAINER, RIGHT?

This guy...
You're ordering me——?
DON'T SPEAK, MOTOSHIGE HOLD ON TIGHT SO THAT YOU WON'T FALL!
SFX. GALLOPS
SFX. GALLOPS
HIZEN SAGA CASTLE
OPEN THE DOOR!
OPEN UP!

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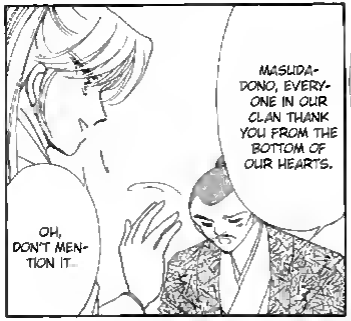
NABESHIMA MOTOSHIGE-DONO IS WOUNDED BY POISONOUS ARROWS! I'M MIYAMOTO MUSASHI FROM KOKURA HAN AND I'VE BROUGHT HIM HERE!
I'M BEGGING YOU TO OPEN THE DOOR!
MO MOTO-SHIGE-SAMA?!
IT'S MOTO-SHIGE-SAMA!
SFX: WASHES
FORTUNATELY, THE BLEEDING WAS STOPPED IN TIME, AND HIS WOUND WAS WASHED WITH WATER.
IF HE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS BY THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, HE SHOULD BE ALRIGHT.

DONO...
DONO-OO...
WE'RE EXTREMELY SORRY.
WHY DO YOU THINK I LET YOU ELITES FOLLOW MOTOSHIGE?!
MOTO-SHIGE!
YOU, IDIOTS! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
MASTER OF SAGA HAN NABESHIMA KATSUSHIGE
THAT'S RUDE. HE'S KATSUSHIGE-SAMA
AH, ARE YOU HIS FATHER?
MOTO-SHIGE... WHAT... POOR CHILD...

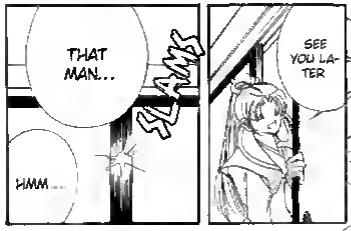
THEY'VE HELPED US CARRY DONO HERE
THIS IS MIYAMOTO MUSASHI-SAMA WHO HAPPENED TO BE THERE AND RENDERED HELP TO US
OH MY...
AND WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE?
PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT...
SO YOU'RE THE HIGHLY-REPUTED MIYAMOTO MUSASHI. I'M SORRY TO HAVE GOTTEN YOU INVOLVED
KATTLE!
KATTLE!
KATTLE!
FLINCHES
ME ..?
ACTUALLY, WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO SEE YOU

RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
Why is this man afraid of the sound of the wind?
I..I CAN'T STAY HERE TOO LONG—— SHALL WE TALK SOMEWHERE ELSE?
ALRIGHT
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO GO?
ESPECIALLY WHEN YOUR SON'S LIFE IS IN DANGER!
ka-chak
So, is that his father, the castellan——?
SHUT UP, NATSUKI!
BUT....I UNDERSTAND VERY WELL THAT
MOTOSHIGE-SAN'S A RESPECTABLE MAN WHO'S LOVED BY THE PEOPLE
BUT....

THAT'S WHY THEY'RE AFTER HIS LIFE——
OUR DONO'S ACADEMICALLY OUTSTANDING, KIND-HEARTED, AND HONEST——
OF COURSE!
THE PEOPLE HERE REALLY LOVE THEIR RULERS
PLEASE, PLEASE WAIT UP
HUH? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YES...
JINBACHI, REFRAIN YOURSELF IN FRONT OF DONO
I'M MUTOU MATASHICHI, AND THIS MAN HERE IS EMORI JINBACHI
PLEASE, MAY I KNOW—— YOUR NAME?
AH... WELL, I SEE
PLEASE GUARD HERE FOR A WHILE
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR MY FRIENDS


MASUDA-DONO, EVERYONE IN OUR CLAN THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS.
OH, DON'T MENTION IT

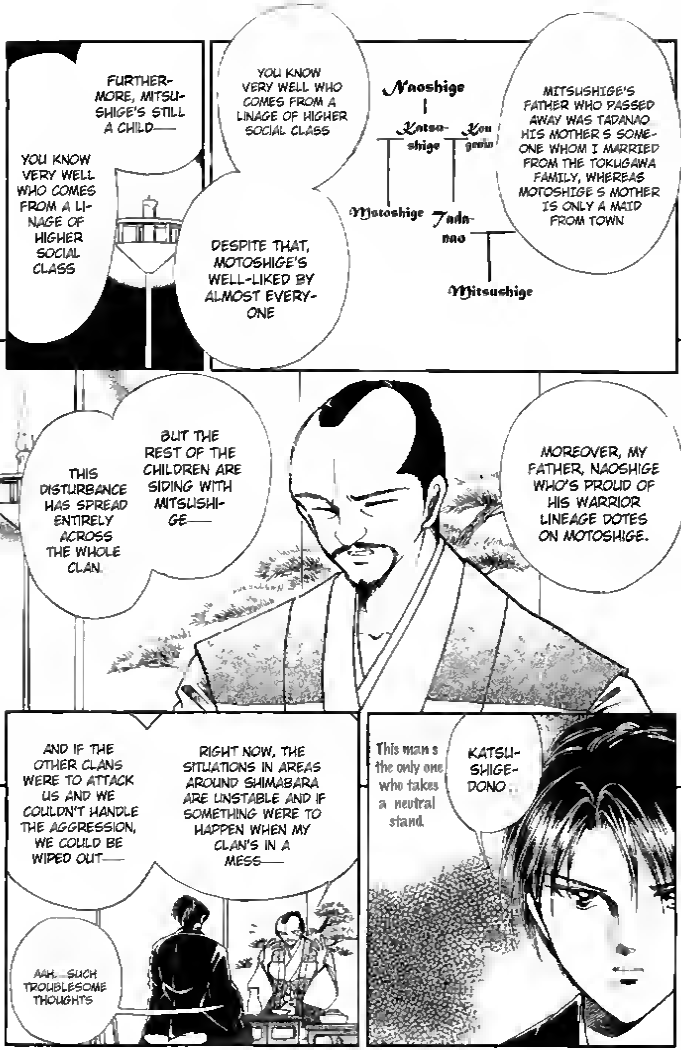
WELL— I'M MASUDA SHIROU...


THAT MAN...
HMM...
SLAMS
SEE YOU LATER

HMM DOESN'T IT SEEM MORE LIKE MIYAMOTO'S FOLLOWING HIM INSTEAD...?
I THOUGHT HE WAS MIYAMOTO MUSASHI-DONO'S RETAINER, BUT IT SEEMS THAT I WAS WRONG.

HE'S SOMEWHAT... A MYSTERIOUS MAN
NO MATTER WHAT, HE HAD SAVED US...

PLEASE KEEP THIS CONVERSATION A SECRET
MIYAMOTO-DONO, I HAVE A REQUEST
KATSUSHIGE-SAMA, YOU SEEM TO KNOW THE CULPRIT WHO ATTACKED MOTOSHIGE-DONO.
EVERYONE'S WORRIED
ARE ..ARE THE WORDS SPREADING?
I'M JUST GUESSING AND ANYONE IN THE CLAN WOULD BE HAVING THE SAME THOUGHTS TOO
AHH... PLEASE DON'T SAY ANYTHING FURTHER
MOTOSHIGE-DONO AND MITSUSHIGE ARE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS——


FURTHER-MORE, MITSU-SHIGE'S STILL A CHILD——
YOU KNOW VERY WELL WHO COMES FROM A LINAGE OF HIGHER SOCIAL CLASS
YOU KNOW VERY WELL WHO COMES FROM A LINAGE OF HIGHER SOCIAL CLASS
DESPITE THAT, MOTOSHIGE'S WELL-LIKED BY ALMOST EVERY-ONE
Naoshige
Katsu-shige
Yoshi-masa
Motoshige
Tadanao
Mitsushige
MITSUSHIGE'S FATHER WHO PASSED AWAY WAS TADANAO HIS MOTHER'S SOME-ONE WHOM I MARRIED FROM THE TOKUGAWA FAMILY, WHEREAS MOTOSHIGE'S MOTHER IS ONLY A MAID FROM TOWN
THIS DISTURBANCE HAS SPREAD ENTIRELY ACROSS THE WHOLE CLAN.
BUT THE REST OF THE CHILDREN ARE SIDING WITH MITSUSHI-GE——
MOREOVER, MY FATHER, NAOSHIGE WHO'S PROUD OF HIS WARRIOR LINEAGE DOTES ON MOTOSHIGE.
AND IF THE OTHER CLANS WERE TO ATTACK US AND WE COULDN'T HANDLE THE AGGRESSION, WE COULD BE WIPED OUT——
RIGHT NOW, THE SITUATIONS IN AREAS AROUND SHIMABARA ARE UNSTABLE AND IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN WHEN MY CLAN'S IN A MESS——
AAH... SUCH TROUBLESOME THOUGHTS
This man's the only one who takes a neutral stand.
KATSU-SHIGE-DONO..

DO YOU KNOW OF—ANY ACTIVITIES IN AREAS AROUND SHIMABARA?
THERE'S A RATHER STRANGE RUMOR GOING AROUND IN THOSE PLACES
SOMETHING ABOUT THE APPEARANCE OF GOD'S MESSENGER
HUMPH, IF SUCH A MAN IS REALLY HERE, I'D LIKE TO ASK HIM FOR HELP
WHAT IF GOD'S MESSENGER—
IS REALLY HERE?
HUH?

HAS ERI AND THE REST ENTERED THE CASTLE YET?
SOMEHOW, I ALWAYS ALLOW MY HEART TO RULE OVER MY HEAD——
AND UNINTENTIONALLY GOTTEN CLOSE WITH MOTOSHIGE...
But I feel that I must not let him be killed
I'm sure he'll make a good castellan.
SFX: CLACK
HM?
DAMN IT!
HEY!
SFX: FLACK

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SFX: GRABS
TAKE THIS!
DIE!
SFX: CLACK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SFX: CLACK
WHAT'S WITH YOU? DO YOU KNOW THAT I'M NABESHIMA MITSUSHIGE? HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME IN SUCH AN IMPUDENT WAY!
DON'T DO THAT! DON'T KILL THE LIVING ANIMALS JUST FOR FUN!
I'M PRACTICING MY SWORD, AND IT'S FUN TO SWING IT ON THE BIRD.

YOU SURE ARE IMPERTINENT— WATCH THIS
YOU CAN STILL PRACTICE YOUR SWORD WITHOUT EVEN KILLING ANY LIVING THING
SHUT UP! IF YOU CONTINUE TO BE RUDE, I'LL BEAT YOU UP WITH MY FISTS!
HMM, SO YOU'RE MITSUSHIGE? IF YOU'RE LIKE THIS, YOU WON'T MAKE A GOOD CASTELLAN
WHOOSH
CHTS
TRY THAT, YOU DEFINITELY CAN'T DO IT
SAYS WHO!
SFX. WHOOSH

SFX: WHIZ
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU GOT IT.
THE LEAF FLIES OFF WITH THE WIND WHEN I SWING MY SWORD
UH
SFX: WHIZ
LOOK CAREFULLY, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHERE THE WILTED LEAVES WILL GO.
AH, MITSUSHIGE-SAMA'S OVER THERE!
THERE'S A SUSPICIOUS FELLOW NEXT TO MITSUSHIGE-SAMA!
HM...
YOU...ARE YOU THE YOUNG MASTER'S MAN? DID YOU COME HERE TO TAKE REVENGE ON MITSUSHIGE-SAMA?
NO——NO, IT'S A MISUNDERSTANDING
SAGA CLAN'S ELDER NAGAKI YASUYORI

SFX. CLANK
SFX. CLANK
WAIT.
PROTECT MITSUSHIGE-SAMA!
SFX. THUD
I ALREADY SAID THAT IT'S A MISUNDER-STANDING!
WAH...
SFX. SWINGS
SFX. THUD

YASUYORI, YOU'VE MISTAKEN! THIS MAN HERE IS ONLY TEACHING ME HOW TO USE THE SWORD
YOU KNOW...
THIS... I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH REMARKABLE SKILL
KEEP YOUR WEAPONS, IT'S ALRIGHT
MITSUSHIGE-SAMA
MITSUSHIGE
I'VE TOLD YOU NOT TO COME TO THE GARDEN ALONE
MITSUSHIGE-SAMA, ARE YOU REALLY ALRIGHT?
THANK YOU, MITSUSHIGE. I'VE SAID THAT IT'S A MISUNDERSTANDING, BUT THESE PEOPLE REFUSE TO LISTEN TO ME
Uh, wah... What a murderous aura... This man
SFX: KEEP

I'VE ALREADY SAID THAT IT'S A MISUNDERSTANDING, HAVEN'T I?!
AND THAT INCLUDES THIS FELLOW
MITSUSHIGE-SAMA, A WHILE BACK, MOTOSHIGE-DONO WAS WOUNDED BY A POISONOUS ARROW AND WAS SENT HERE. THE YOUNG MASTER'S MEN ARE STILL LOITERING AROUND,
IS THAT THE ONLY THING YOU PEOPLE CARE?!
THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN PEOPLE OF HIGH STATUS, AREN'T THERE?
HAVE YOU LOOKED AROUND YOU? YOUR FOLLOWERS AND PEOPLE ARE WORRIED!
THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE WHO'RE DYING OF STARVATION EVEN AT THIS VERY MOMENT.
COMPARE WITH THOSE PEOPLE, YOU'RE FAR MORE FORTUNATE HERE

FATHER...
MY FATHER HAD SAID THE SAME THING AS THIS MAN.
MITSU-SHIGE-SAMA?
ARE YOU REFERRING TO TA-DANAO-SAMA?
YEAH...
HE SAID THAT, 'THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR A MAN, WHO STANDS ABOVE THE REST, IS NOT ONLY TO LOOK UP..
BUT TO SEE DOWN AND BEYOND.' HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT WE SHOULD NOT BELITTLE THOSE WHO ARE BELOW AND AROUND US
HEY— YASUYORI...
MY FATHER DID SAY THE SAME THING, DIDN'T HE?
...YES, HE DID.

AND..
YOU ARE A CLEVER BOY, MITSUSHIGE
REALLY?!
YOUR FATHER WAS A VERY SPLENDID MAN..
YES, HE WAS..
AH, RIGHT HERE, MIYAMOTO
WHERE ARE YOU? NATSUKI?

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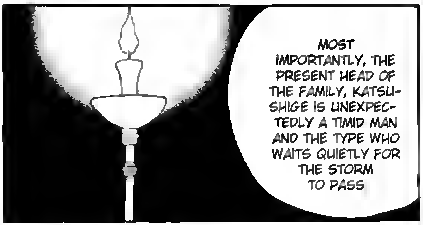
ANYWAY, THIS CLAN'S SPLIT INTO TWO NOW. ONE PART OF THEM'S ON MOTOSHIGE'S SIDE WHILE THE OTHER SIDED WITH MITSUSHIGE, AND BOTH PARTIES ARE SUSPICIOUS OF EACH OTHER

OOH— ERI, WE'VE FINALLY MET.
HOW'S MOTOSHIGE'S CONDITION?
IF HE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS HE'LL SURVIVE


MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE PRESENT HEAD OF THE FAMILY, KATSUSHIGE IS UNEXPECTEDLY A TIMID MAN AND THE TYPE WHO WAITS QUIETLY FOR THE STORM TO PASS

BUT EITHER PARTY SEEM NICE THOUGH.

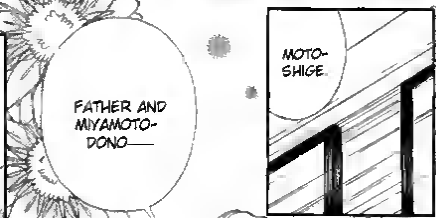
KATSUSHIGE EVEN SAID THAT IF GOD'S MESSENGER'S REALLY HERE, HE WOULD LIKE TO ASK HIM FOR HELP..
AH, THAT REMINDS ME. THE NAGESHIMA CLAN SWAM WITH THE STREAM AND DID WHAT THE OTHER CLANS DID DURING THE REBELLION. ACCORDING TO HISTORY.
WHAT AN INDECISIVE MAN—

HEY !! HOW ABOUT THIS...
THAT'S EASIER SAID THAN DONE HOW DO WE HELP HIM IN SUCH A SITUATION WHEN THE CLAN'S SPLIT INTO TWO?
ISN'T THIS QUITE LUCKY FOR US?
HEY, IF THAT'S THE CASE, HE MAY BELIEVE THAT GOD'S MESSENGER'S HERE IF WE HELP HIM
WHY DON'T WE HAVE THE DEAD TADANAO APPEAR HERE?

OOH, MIYAMOTO-DONO
KATSU-SHIGE-SAMA, THAT'S WON-DERFUL

MOTOSHIGE-SAMA HAS RE-GAINED CON-SCIOUSNESS!

AH, YOU ..


FATHER AND MIYAMOTO-DONO——
MOTO-SHIGE

I REMEMBER THAT YOU WERE SHOUTING THAT YOU'D SAVE ME
AAH.. YES I WAS TOO CARRIED AWAY

MITSU-SHIGE?
MITSU-SHIGE
UNCLE.
I'M VERY GRATEFUL AND IF NOT FOR WHAT YOU HAD DONE, I'D PROBABLY BE DEAD.
YOU MUST NOT COME HERE.
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST WHAT I THINK IN MY HEART.
YOU'RE MITSUSHIGE'S MASTER?
AH, MASTER, SO YOU'RE HERE!
IT'S ALRIGHT, ISN'T IT? IT'S NATURAL TO PAY A VISIT TO A PATIENT.
HAHAHA
WELL, IT'S NOTHING.
WHAT'S WITH THAT?

THIS IS... IT'S LIKE A SCENE IN MY DREAM...
MITSU-SHIGE
I WOULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED THAT I'D BE AT SAGA CASTLE, HAVING A GOOD LAUGH WITH FATHER AND MITSUSHIGE...
THIS IS... COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S RATHER UNIMAGINABLE
HEY! THAT'S ENOUGH!
LET'S HURRY BACK TO YOUR BEDROOM
YOU MUST NOT GO NEAR THE INJURED MAN
MITSU-SHIGE-SAMA, YOU'RE IN SUCH A PLACE AGAIN
THE MAN WHOM YOU RESPECT THE MOST, TADANAO-SAMA, RIGHT?
THE SADDEST ONE TO SEE THESE TWO AT WAR WITH EACH OTHER WOULD BE...
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL THAT MOTOSHIGE AND MITSUSHIGE ARE GETTING ALONG?
HMM...?
AH, YASUYORI

WHAT... WHAT IS THIS? I'VE NEVER HEARD ANY-THING LIKE IT...
WHAT'S MAKING THIS SOUND?
IT'S DESCEN-DING FROM ABOVE.
THAT'S ? A CRUCIFIX?
WHAT'S THAT?
A CRUCIFIX...?
IT'S THE MOBILE MELODY, 'HARELUYA'.
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MUSIC
SFX: PO
UWAH! WHAT'S THIS? IT'S A HUGE MOTH——
SFX: SHOO
AH!

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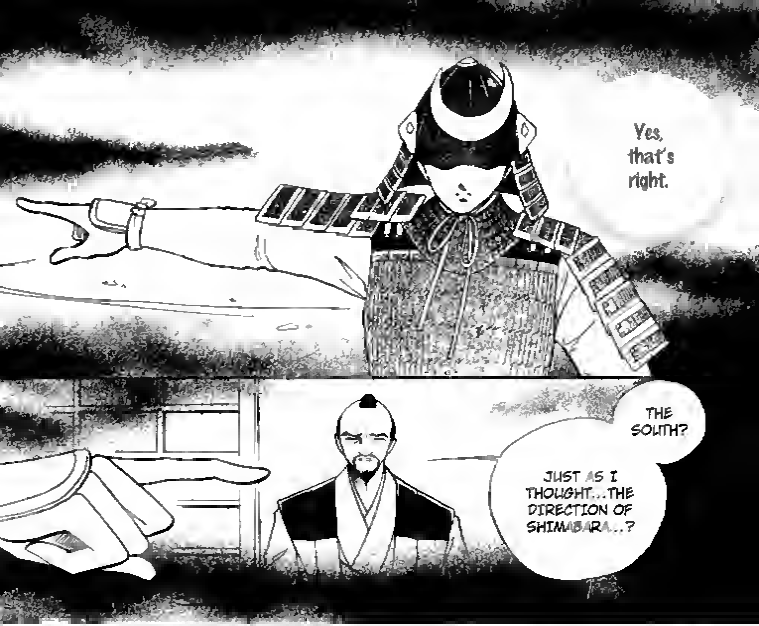
HATRED ONLY BEGETS HATRED.
LOVE YOUR ENEMIES.
TA... TADANAO... SAMA.
NO MORE FIGHTING AND NO MORE BLOOD-SHED FROM NOW ONWARDS.
This is bad...
The armor's the only thing that I can get my hands on.
FATHER? WHY ARE YOU WEARING YOUR ARMOR? ARE YOU FIGHTING A WAR SOME-WHERE?
THAT EIJI! THAT'S OUR SCHOOL PRIN-CIPAL'S PET PHRASE
SHH—!



SFX: DISAPPEARS

AH, FATHER!
ARE YOU GOING BACK?
MASTER.
Somehow... it seems like an unsatisfactory performance...
THE BATTERIES DIED SUDDENLY.
WHEEZ— I'M HAVING COLD SWEAT.
GOOD WORK.
THIS MUSIC AGAIN...

YOU CALLED FOR FATHER, DIDN'T YOU?
WHY... WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
SINCE YOU CAME, SOMETHING HAS CHANGED HERE
He's right This place has changed
Everything.
started from this person.

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